

JWW:BJM
5/4/5/54

APR 22 1964

Mr. James J. Rowley
Chief, United States Secret Service
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rowley:

Reference is made to the enclosed memoranda dated April 16, 1964, from Mark W. Griffin to W. David Stinson, both of whom are members of the staff of this Commission, concerning interviews by Mr. Griffin of a Mrs. Connell and a Mr. Minorsch in Dallas, Texas. On April 17, Mr. Stinson of the Commission staff discussed this matter informally with Mr. James Bailey of the Secret Service.

As set forth in more detail in these memoranda, Miss Sylvia Gato of Dallas, Texas, a Cuban refugee who has been active in the anti-Castro Cuban political groups in Dallas, stated shortly after the assassination that she had seen Lee Harvey Oswald in the company of some prominent anti-Castro Cuban leaders in October or November, 1963. It is not included in these memoranda, but Miss Gato has previously stated that on about an one occasion she saw Oswald in her home in the company of the anti-Castro Cuban leaders Juan Puerto Rios of Miami, Florida, and that one of them referred to himself as "Leonidas."

The enclosed memoranda also refer to a former priest known as Father MacMahon. The Commission would appreciate the Service's locating Father MacMahon, if possible, and interviewing him with regard to all he knows about Miss Gato and, especially, obtaining all the information he can provide on the Cuban refugee community in and around Dallas, Texas, and on the individuals directly involved in anti-Castro political activities in and around Dallas. The Commission would like to obtain this information as background, prior to any further contact with Sylvia Gato.

cc: Martin
Willens
Coleman - Stinson
Hubert - Griffin

In this connection, the Commission would also like to be furnished with Robert Harris' photograph No. 3507 together with the name list of the persons who are connected to the assassination of the President.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

J. Lee Berlin
General Counsel

Enclosures (2)